Grants are given under the scheme to voluntary organisations including autonomous bodies under the State/ Central Governments to provide aids/ appliances to disabled persons. The value of the aid ranges from Rs. 25 to Rs. 3,000. This scheme is implemented through implementing agencies spread all over the country. The following grants were released to the voluntary organisations in Orissa during 1985-86 and 1986-87:—

1985-86	Rs. 8,00,000
1986-87	Rs. 6,75,000

5. *Scholarship for Disabled Persons*

Under the scheme scholarships are provided to physically handicapped students for pursuing education from class IX onwards. Scholarships are also provided for technical and professional training of the handicapped. The amount of scholarship depends on the course of study. In addition, reader's allowance is given to the blind, and prosthetic/transport allowance is available to the orthopaedically handicapped. During 1986-87 a grant of Rs. 5,33,000 was sanctioned to the Government of Orissa under this scheme.

6. *District Rehabilitation Centre and Special Employment Cells.*

Grants are sanctioned on specific requests received from the District Rehabilitation Centres of Special Employment Cells. No proposal for release of funds was received from Orissa during 1985-86, hence no grants was sanctioned. During 1986-87 a sum of Rs. 17 lakhs was sanctioned to District Rehabilitation Centre, Bhubaneswar.

7. *Scheme for the welfare of the aged*

During 1985-86, the State Government of Orissa recommended two proposals for grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations for the welfare of the aged. No grant was given since the proposals were incomplete.

8. *National Institutes.*

On the request of the Government of Orissa, the National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay has started a Diploma Course in the Education of the Deaf at Bhubaneswar from May, 1986. The entry qualificaion is 10+2 and the duration is one year with an intake of 20 trainees per year. The National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped has spent an amount of about Rs. 2.25 lakh on this centre during the academic year 1986-87.

Installations of Tube Wells etc. in the States of Eastern Region

3153. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 806 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd May, 1986 and state what specific steps have since been taken in respect of implementing the recommendations of the S.R. Sen Committee for the installation of tube wells and pump sets, improvement in the drainage and water management techniques in the States of the Eastern region, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): According to the recommendations of the S. R. Sen Committee, the main spear-head for agricultural development in the Eastern States will be in terms of provision of tube-wells, installation of pump sets, improvement of drainage, water management techniques, etc. Since agriculture is a State subject, the concerned State Governments were advised to implement the recommendations as a part of the State Plan Programmes for which much higher order of resources has been earmarked for agricultural development of the States during the Seventh Plan. For supplementing the efforts of the State Governments, however, the Centre has also been assisting the States, includ-

ing the Eastern States, in implementing a number of major Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Many of such schemes have also components for development of irrigation and water management.

National Policy for Supply of Water from Irrigation Projects

3154. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Press Reports from Maharashtra regarding change in policy in providing water from irrigation projects on 8 monthly basis rather than 12 monthly basis to facilitate more irrigation facilities to dry lands; and

(b) if so, whether the Central Gov policy as propose to form a national policy as regrads water suppiy available from irrigation projects and introduction of new methods like Drip Irrigation so that more land can be brought under production.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Reports indicate such changes in irrigation releases in Maharashtra. These are matters to be decided by the State Government in the circumstances of each case for the command areas of their irrigation projects. The draft National Water Policy covers, *inter alia*, the need for water conservation, water management and promotion of appropriate irrigation techniques. Under a Centrally sponsored scheme, Central assistance is being given to States for providing subsidy to small and marginal farmers for installation of water saving devices like drip irrigation system.

Import of Cows for Punjab

3155. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to import "Europe's Cows" to supplement the milk production with high yielding varieties in Punjab and other areas as the European cows are very cheap;

(b) whether Government are making any research on Cow breeding suitable for Indian conditions and if so, what is the result thereof; and

(c) whether Government have studied the proposal since cows imported previously did not given same yield in tropical climate?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The State Government of Punjab have proposed to import a limited number of Jersey and Holstein Friesian cows.

(b) The Technical Programme under the All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Cattle involved creation of breed combination involving exotic breed of cattle viz. Holstein Friesian, Brown Swiss, Jersey and 3 indigenous breeds viz. Haryana, Gir and Ongole and to study the genetic groups for growth, production, reproduction efficiency and economics of milk production. The project has been in operation for the last three plan periods. The various levels of exotic inheritance involving exotic-indigenous breeds *viz.* half and three fourth with two exotic breeds have been generated. Comparison of the half and three fourth breeds have revealed that the Friesian half breed is best genetic group with respect to overall performance irrespective of indigenous breed and location. The scope of the project during the 7th Plan has been reoriented/expanded.

(c) The exotic cows are proposed to be used for crossbreeding purpose.